ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

Fifty-First Annual Session

OF THE

Lost Creek Baptist Association,

OF THE PRIMITIVE FAITH AND ORDER,

HELD WITH

Pilgrim Church, Walker County, Ala.,

October 4th, 5th and 6th, 1895.

OFFICERS:

J. S. KITCHENS, ... MODERATOR.
I. P. MYERS, ... CLERK.

MOUNTAIN EAGLE PAINT, JASPER, ALA.

MINUTES.

The Fifty-first Annual Session of the Lost Creek Primitive Baptist Association was held with Pilgrim Church, Walker County, Ala., October 4th, 5th and 6th, 1895.

Article 1st. The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder J. C. Shelton; text, 2nd chapter and 10th verse of Ephesians, "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."

2nd. After short recess the delegates re-assembled in the Church-house. After singing, prayer was offered by Elder H. Barton.

3rd. Called for the reading of letters from the different churches represented and the names of delegates enrolled as the table will show.

4th. Elected Elder J. S. Kitchens, Moderator, and Isham P. Myers, Clerk, after which the Moderator announced the Association ready for business.

5th. Invited visiting brethren of our faith and practice to seats with us.

6th. Opened the doors of the Association for newly constituted churches. None received.

7th. Called for correspondence from sister Associations and received letters, Minutes and messengers from Five Mile Creek Association, Elders H. Barton, M. L. Vandiver, P. J. Powell, brethern M. Barton, J. R. Sanders, and received letter and Minutes and messenger from Mount Zion Association, Elder J. C. Shelton, and received letter and Minutes and messengers from Hopewell Association, brethren Josiah Evans and J. I. McMillion, and received letter and Minutes from Buttahatchie Association. The letters were received and messengers invited to seats with us.

8th. On motion received brethren as visitors from Five Mile Creek Association, to-wit: Thornton Myers, W. E. Short, J. M. Lantrip.

9th. Appointed brethern to write letters to sister cor-

responding Associations, viz: brethren D. M. Day to Five Mile Creek Association; A. T. Handley to Mount Zion; W. W. Worthington to Hopewell and J. I. Faught to Buttahatchie.

10th. Appointed a Committee on Finance, to-wit: brethren W. S. Poe and R. N. Waldrop.

11th. Appointed a committee to arrange preaching during the present meeting, brethren, to-wit: J. I. Faught, I. P. Myers, A. McGough, M. V. Guttery, E. K. Dotson, D. M. Day, W. M. Robertson, together with the delegates of Pilgrim Church.

12th. The Association then adjourned until Saturday morning, nine o'clock

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Saturday Morning, Oct. 5th, 1895.

13th. The Association met according to adjournment. Prayer by Elder P. J. Powell.

14th. The Arrainging Committee handed in their report, brethern H. Barton, and after intermission, brother Thos. McGough; M. L. Vandiver to close.

15th. Names of delegates called and absentees marked. From Zion, H. Herron, J. I. Faught; from Pisgah, I. P. Myers, A. Myers; Liberty Grove, A. McGough, Thos. McGough; Center Hill, F. D. Guttery, J. G. Guttery, M. V. Guttery; Sulphur Springs, J. S. Kitchens, William Jackson, E. K. Dotson; Enon, W. J. Hocut, D. M. Day, W. W. Worthington; Salem, A. J. Gibson, G. W. Poe, W. M. Robertson; Pilgrim, A. T. Handly, J. P. Johnson and R. N. Waldrop.

16th. On motion, the Constitution, Rules of Decorum and Abstracts of Faith were read by Elder A. J. Gibson.

17th. Called for the reading of the letters to sister corresponding Associations. They were read and received and corresponding messengers appointed. To Five Mile Creek Association, Elder Thos. McGough, brethren D. M. Day, I. P. Myers, A. T. Handly, R. N. Waldrop, B. B. Boshell, W. W. Wilson, W. J. Hocut; Mount Zion, Elders J. S. Kitchens, R. J. Guttery, A. T. Handly; Hopewell, Bro. G. W. Myers. Buttahatchie letter and Minutes to be sent by mail.

18th. The next session of this Association will be held with Pisquah Church, Walker County, Ala., at Carbon Hill, commencing on Friday before the first Sabbath in October 1896.

19th. Called for the report of the Committee on Finance. They report $15.10. Then the committee discharged.

20th. The first district meeting will convene with Center Hill Church, commencing on Friday before the 3rd Sabbath in August, 1896, Elder J. S. Kitchens to preach the introductory sermon; A. J. Gibson, his alternate. The second district will convene with Sulphur Springs Church, commencing on Friday before the 1st Sabbath in September, 1896, Elder Thos. McGough to preach the introductory sermon; R. J. Guttery his alternate.

21st. On motion the Clerk was appointed to superintend the printing of the Minutes, and also appointed Treasurer; that there be two hundred copies printed and distributed among the churches according to their contribution, reserving 75 for corresponding purposes. Also allowing the clerk the remainder of the contribution for his service after paying the printer.

22nd. Called for miscellaneous business.

23rd. Resolved that the Asociation tender its sincere thanks to the Brethren and citizens of this community for their kindness shown us during our stay with them.

24th. Called for the reading of the Minutes of the present session. They were read and approved and signed by the Moderator.

25th. Then adjourned until the time and place aforesaid.

J. S. KITCHENS, Moderator.
Isham P. Myers, Clerk.

Preaching on Sunday by Elders J. C. Shelton and P. J. Powell.—Clerk.

CONSTITUTION.

Article 1. All the churches composing this Association shall be of the Baptist denomination.

Art. 2. All churches composed of members as above and constituted by a presbytery of members of the Baptist order on the abstract of the Principles of Faith adopted by this Association, shall be considered orthodox; and on application by letter and messengers (if found orderly) shall be received into this Association, which will be signified by the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

Art. 3. The Association thus formed shall be known by the name of the Lost Creek United Baptist Association, of the Primitive Order, whose business shall be to maintain and perpetuate the union of the churches and brethren, to open and extend correspondence with sister Associations and the denomination generally, to determine doubtful questions, and to settle difficulties between churches; but shall have no power to infringe the internal rights of the churches nor interfere with the fellowship of individual members.

Art. 4. Each church shall be entitled to three represenatives, who shall be chosen by the churches, and on their presenting a church letter certifying their appointment, they shall be entitled to seats and all the privileges of the Association.

Art. 5. Should any church of this body neglect or refuse to represent herself, as described in the above articles, she shall show cause for such neglect or refusal at the next session. Should she neglect or refuse to show cause, or should the cause not be satisfactory, and she refuses to give satisfaction, she may be excluded from the Association.

Art. 6. If any church or member of this body depart from the orthodox principles or become disorderly or remain incorrigible after due labor had, she shall be ex-communicated from the Association and published in the minutes.

Art. 7. Where any difficulty or difficulties arise between two or more churches of this body it shall be the duty of the aggrieved to labor for satisfaction. Should satisfaction not be attained, it shall be the duty of the aggrieved to proceed according to the economy of the Church Discipline as contained in Mathew, chapter 18, and other parts of the Scriptures that define the nature of offenses and the mode of bringing offenders to trial; but if the aid of helps of other churches should fail to effect a reconcilation, then the case shall be brought before the Association which shall take it up and try it on its merits, giving to all concerned a fair hearing, and the decision of the Association shall be final in the case, and shall be entered on the minutes; and in no case of difficulty between churches of this body shall be taken up but such as have been treated as above described.

Art. 8. The Association shall prepare a book of record in which all the proceedings shall be recorded.

Art. 9 The Association shall have a fund to defray the expense of printing minutes, paying the Clerk for services, and other incidental expenses. The money thus expended shall be furnished by the churches of this body and deposited in the hands of a Treasurer, who shall hold the Association fund, from which he shall advance money to the Association order, but not otherwise, and shall make a fair report in the minutes of each Annual Session of the money received from each church, of the amount

in hand and the sum total; also, the sum total with the several items paid out.

Art. 10. Every church shall be furnished with minutes and every other benefit of the fund in proportion to the money advanced by it.

Art. 11. Any amendment may be made the Constitution whenever a majority of the churches may think necessary and signify it to the Association in their letters, pointing out the defective part and the amendment necessary to be made.

ABSTRACT OF FAITH.

1. We believe in only one true and living God, the Father, Word and Holy Ghost.

"In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God, and the word was God." St. John 1, 1. 14th v: "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth."

"For there are three that bear record in Heaven—the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost—and these three are one." 1 John, 5, 7.

Art. 2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the revealed word of God, and the only rule of Faith and practice.

"For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man, but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." 2d Peter, 1st chapter and 21st verse.

"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" 2d Tim., 3d, 16.

"And I heard a voice from Heaven saying unto me, write." Rev 14, 13.

Art. 3. We believe in the doctrine of election by grace. 2d Timothy, 1, 9.—"Who hath saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose, and grace which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began."

Eph. 1, 4, 5—According as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestinated unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself according to the good pleasure of his will."

4. We believe in the fall of man and that he is incapable of recovering himself therefrom. Rom. 5, 12—"Wherefore as by one man sin entered the world, and death by sin, and so death passed upon all men for that all have sinned."

John 6, 44—"No man can come to me except the Father which sent me draw him, and I will raise him up at the last day."

Art. 5. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God, only by the imputed righteousness of Christ. Gal. 3, 6—"Even as Abraham believed God and it was accounted to him for righteousness."

Rom. 4, 5—"But to him that worketh not but believeth on Him, that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness."

Titus, 3, 7—"That being justified by his grace we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life."

Art. 6. We believe that God's Elect will be called and regenerated by the Holy Ghost. I Peter, 1, 2—"Elect according to the

foreknowledge of God the Father through sanctification of the spirit unto obedience and the sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ.

Rom. 8, 30—"Moreover whom he did predestinate them he also called, and whom he called them he also justified, and whom he justified them he also glorified."

Art. 7. We believe that saints shall persevere in grace and never fall finally away. John 3, 9—"Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin, for his seed remaineth in him, and he cannot sin because he is born of God."

I Peter, 1, 22—"Being born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible by the word of God that liveth and abideth forever."

John 10, 27—"My sheep hear my voice and I know them and they follow me;" verse 28, "And I give unto them eternal life, and they shall never perish."

Art. 8. We believe Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only fit subjects of these ordinances, and the mode of Baptism is immersion. Mat. 3, 21—"Then cometh Jesus from Gallilee to Jordan unto John to be baptised of him:" verse 16, "And Jesus when he was baptised went up straightway out of the water, and lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting upon him."

John 2, 23—"And he also was baptising in Enon near to Salem, because there was much water there, and they came and were baptised." Rom. 6, 4—"Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death." Matthew 26, 26-7—"And as they were eating Jesus took bread and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples and said, take, eat, this is my body. and he took the cup and gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, drink ye all of it."

Art. 9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment, and that the punishment of the wicked and joys of the righteous will be eternal. Luke 24, 6—"He is not here but is risen." John 5, 2 —"Marvel not at this, for the hour is coming in which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice;" v. 29, "And shall come forth, they that have done good unto the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation." Matt. 25, 46—"And these shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal."

10. We believe that no minister has a right to the administration of the ordinances only such as are regularly baptised, called and come under the imposition of hands by the presbytery. Mark 3, 14—"And he ordained twelve that they should be with him and that he might send them forth to preach." John 15, 15—"Ye hath not chosen me, but I hath chosen you and ordained you that ye should go and bring forth fruits and that your fruits should remain, that whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name he may give it to you."

Art. 11. We believe that none but regularly baptised members have a right to commune at the Lord's table, Luke, 3, 7-8—"Then said he to the multitude that came forth to be baptised of him, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come, bring therefore fruits, meet for repentance and think not to say within yourselves we have Abraham to our Father, for I say unto you that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham."

"And Phillip said, "If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest," and he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the son of God." And he commanded the chariot to stand still,

and they went down both into the water, both Phillip and the Eunuch, and he baptised him. Acts 8, 37-8.

Matt. 3, 15—"And Jesus answered and said unto him, Suffer it to be so now, for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness." 1 Cor. 5, 11—"But now I have written unto you not to keep company if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolator, or a railer, or a drunkard or an extortioner, with such a one know not to eat. Rom. 16, 17—"Now I beseech you brethren mark them which cause divisions and offenses contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned, and avoid them: verse 18, "For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by good words and fair speech deceive the hearts of the simple."

Art. 12. We therefore believe that washing the saint's feet was ordained by Christ to be done by his children until his second coming: John 13, 13-15—"Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well for so I am. If I, then, your Lord and Master have washed your feet, ye, also ought to wash one anothers' feet, for I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you."

RULES OF DECORUM.

Article 1. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

2. A Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the suffrages of the members present.

3. Only one person shall speak at the same time, who shall first rise and address the Moderator.

4. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in his speech by anyone except the Moderator, nor by him unless he breaks the rules.

5. He shall strictly adhere to the subject and in no wise reflect on the person who spoke before so as to make remarks upon his slips, failings or imperfections, but shall fairly state the matter as nearly as he can so as to convey his idea.

6. No member shall break off, or absent himself from the Association without leave.

7. No person shall rise or speak more than three times on one subject, without leave of the Association.

8. Every motion made and seconded shall be put to vote by rising or sitting, unless withdrawn by the member who made it —and a majority in all cases shall decide.

9. No member shall have the liberty of whispering or laughing in time of public speech.

10. No appellation but that of brother shall be used in the Association.

11. The names of the several members of the Association shall be enrolled by the Clerk and called over as often as the Association requires.

12. The Moderator shall have the same liberty of speech as another member, provided the chair be filled; but shall have no vote unless the Association be divided.

13. The Minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected if need be, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association.

14. Any member who breaks any of the rules may be dealt with as the Association may think proper.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	POST OFFICE.	COUNTY.	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	Sabbath Meet'gs	No Baptized	Rec by Letter	Dis. by Letter	Excluded	Restored	Died	Total	Contribution
FIRST DISTRICT.												
Zion	Saragossa,	Walker,	Hiram Herron, J I Faught,	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	$ 1 50
Pisgah	Carbon Hill,	"	I P Myers, A Myers,	2	9	..	1	..	4	..	44	3 00
Liberty Grove	Nauvoo,	"	Thos McGough, A McGough,	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	38	2 00
Center Hill	Townley,	"	F D Guttery, J G Guttery, M V Guttery,	3	..	..	1	..	..	..	18	2 10
SECOND DISTRICT.												
Sulphur Spring	Jasper,	"	J S Kitchens, E K Dotson, Wm Jackson,	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	2 00
Enon	Oakman,	"	D M Day, W J Hocut, W W Wethington,	2	..	..	..	2	..	1	14	2 00
Salem	Corona,	"	A J Gibson, G W Poe, W M Robertson,	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1 50
Pilgrim	Oakman	"	A T Handley, J P Johnson, R N Waldrop,	3	1	..	7	..	..	..	10	1 00

Printer's fee for printing this minute, $9.00. Total, $15.10.